Walker's
HEATING & COOLING SYSTEMS
Sales, Installation,
Service & Maintenance
SCOTT NEILSON
705.457.2375 • www.walkershvac.com



The Haliburton County
# ECHO
$2.00 incl. GST
Publications mail agreement # 40063862
Tuesday, August 26, 2025



TROPHY PROPERTY Corp. Brokerage
PROFESSIONAL OFFICES
DOWNTOWN, WITH PARKING,
FIBRE FROM $250
Call Peter Brady Broker
705-457-8899
705-935-8888
www.trophypropertycorp.com

Haliburton Home hardware building centre
BBQ BONANZA
End of season clear out of selected BBQ's from
Broil King, Napoleon, Sterling and Dynaglo .....
3 DAYS ONLY AUG. 29TH, 30TH, 31ST
Minden Home hardware building centre

**Making merry**
Maeve Palmer and Douglas Tindal perform in *The Merry Widow* over the weekend with the Highlands Opera Studio in Haliburton. For more photos, see inside this edition. /TIM YANO staff photographer

# Rotary breaks ground at Skyline Park

ADAM FRISK
*Journalist*

Rotary officially broke ground at Skyline Park last week, kicking off the club's initiative to revitalize the village's famed scenic lookout point and local landmark.

Rotary members began levelling out an area that is set to become a bus parking area, while also starting work on what will become a covered picnic shelter.

Chuck Wheeler, the chair of Rotary's Skyline Park Project Committee, explained a couple of Rotarians took part in a timber framing course at Fleming college earlier this month, where 11 people constructed the beams and assembled the frame that will be used as the picnic pavilion.

"Diezel Woodworks supplied the timber and ran the course, they took the framing away to sand and stain it," Wheeler said in an interview at Skyline Park. "And in the first week of September they will come here, with the finished concrete slab, and will assemble the building."

Wheeler said by the end of September, Rotarians and volunteers will then assemble the roof of the shelter before pausing further construction.

The rejuvenation project has a price tag of about $200,000 mainly funded by the Rotary Club save for a $5,000 donation by a cottager. Both the County and Dysart are backing the project with $5,000 in funding.

Aside from the covered picnic areas, the project includes an expanded viewing platform, and a new, upper viewing platform designed for people with mobility issues.

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO), which owns the property, committed to building a permanent washroom facility, replacing the existing portable toilets.

"Rather than having to bring in Porta Potties seasonally, there will be a permanent, year-round building," Wheeler said. "Still a vault toilet, like the Porta Potties, but it will be a year-round building that will be fully accessible."

The park will also feature a historical display panel that will highlight a brief history of Haliburton Village proper, a panel mapping out things to do and see. Another panel displaying a brief history of Skyline Park, a panel for Indigenous land acknowledgement while a fifth panel would feature a map of the physical geography of Haliburton.

The existing viewing area will also be expanded, allowing for more visitors to take in the scenic views. Several trees on the MTO property will also be professionally removed or trimmed back to open up the view over the village and Head Lake.

Wheeler said public feedback on the Skyline revitalization project has been "phenomenal."

"The number of people who were at Fleming College last who walked by us building the timber frame structure stopped and said what you're doing is just phenomenal," the Rotarian said. "Lots of people interested in the timber frame structure but also the fact that Rotary was going to build it here.

"Same thing when we are working here, there's a parade of people to the

**see LOCAL page 12**


EMMERSON RENT–ALL
Our Rent-All Department has over 250 items for rent.
For a full list visit www.emmersonlumber.com/rentals
1-888-339-3325 • (705) 457-1550
63 Maple Avenue, Haliburton
RECEIVE A FREE WOOD-PRO™ KIT
Includes Woodsman® Carrying Case, Oilomatic® Chain and STIHL Hat.
rental@emmersonlumber.com
castle building centres
MS 162 GAS CHAINSAW 30.1 CC • 9.9 LB $269.99 MSRP with 16" bar
NEW MS 172 C-E GAS CHAINSAW 31.8 CC • 10.4 LB $369.99 MSRP with 16" bar
NEW MS 212 GAS CHAINSAW 38.6 CC • 10.8 LB $449.99 MSRP with 16" bar
See us for details. Sale valid until November 21, 2025.
STIHL®

# Drag Queen Storytime continues Pride tradition in county

ADAM FRISK
*Journalist*

Auntie Plum reads to children during Drag Queen Storytime at the Minden Hills library on Tuesday. /ADAM FRISK staff

For more than a half-decade, Drag Queen Storytime has been a part of Pride week festivities in the county, a family-friendly event that promotes the love of reading while celebrating diversity, inclusion and self-acceptance.

The Haliburton County Public Library (HCPL) hosted Drag Queen Storytime at both the Minden Hills branch and Dysart, featuring Auntie Plum in celebration of Pride in the Highlands, reading books to children of all ages.

"Storytime is more about giving them a positive sense of self and that can be drawn in a multitude of different ways," the performer said in an Aug. 19 interview. "When it comes to picking stories, it's more of a vibe of watching the crew of kids. Sometimes they are really, really young, sometimes they are more school-aged and sometimes there are 80 and 90 year olds who come to the readings."

With her bright pink wig, and wearing a matching pink roseclip, pink shawl and black floral dress, Auntie Plum made her entrance to the sound of more than 30 cheering kids and clapping adults as she sat in a big comfy chair and began to read.

"Kids are honest. They are pure, they see what they see," the drag queen said. "And what they see, they call it. If they think you look like a frog, they say you look like a frog.

"An adult on the other hand is going to mess around with a bunch of different other stuff and try and say everything other than what they are trying to say in a different way. So sometimes talking to adults through the kids is more valuable I think, because kids just see it for what it is, where adults will analyze everything to the nth degree," she said.

Pride week events, like storytime with Auntie Plum, are well celebrated within the community, but there are some residents who are opposed to such events and have been vocal in the past whether through social media or to protest in person.

"We've had death threats here, we've had all kinds of stuff here, we've had the police here," the drag queen said. "It's not so much about throwing hate speech at me, I'm an adult, it is creating a negative environment that you're tossing out to kids.

"So, it's the person throwing the hate speech that's got the problem and they're the ones that are actually creating the negative space, the negative environment for the kids," she said.

A lone protester was standing outside the Minden library, near the Pride tent, holding a piece of cardboard with references to the Bible written on it. The man was arrested by the Ontario Provincial Police. HCPL couldn't comment on the matter, as it's part of a police investigation. OPP did not respond to a request for comment. It's unclear whether the man was charged with a crime.

HCPL has been hosting the storytime event for seven years now and despite some of the opposition to the event, the book readings have always had a strong turnout.

"It's always very popular," Hillary Montgomery, public services manager and deputy CEO, said. "We have families, we get some teens and lots of adult supporters and seniors coming out every year."

Montgomery said in the past there's been a couple of protesters holding signs out front and the library has had to preemptively turn off comments on social media posts about these types of events, but readings have always gone off without a hitch.

"It's always been pretty good here," Montgomery said. "It is always just a great storytime and it's no different from any of the other storytimes, we sing songs and do silly stuff while promoting literacy and it's a great way to support Minden Pride."

## Dancing days

Dance Happens Here Haliburton (DH3) partnered with the River Cone in Minden and Pride in the Highlands to offer a special line dancing class during Pride Week. Local dance instructor Jacqui Bell led the full crowd through the dances, where people of all ages came to participate. /TIM YANO staff photographer

**Lot $75,000**

Quiet, well treed, small lot, driveway in, year round township road, surveyed.

**Vacant Land $119,000**

This is a well treed 1.6 ac on County Road. Some cleared to build on. Driveway in. On trails for ATV's and snowmobiling. Great opportunity to build your dream home.

Donna Graham
Real Estate Brokerage
Realtor, Broker of Record

Call: (705) 457-6861
grahamre@outlook.com
www.gooderhamontario.com

# Pride co-chairs air concerns at flag raising

THOMAS SMITH
*Journalist*

As with tradition, Minden Hills was the first in Haliburton County to raise the Pride flag on the morning of Monday, Aug. 18. This year marked the ninth year of Pride celebrations in the county.

Pride in the Highlands co-chairs Allan Guinan and Chris Hewson, Ward One Councillor Shirley Johannessen, M.P. Jamie Schmale, and Bob Baynton-Smith all spoke at the event.

Guinan says that while the county's Pride celebrations, now known as Pride in the Highlands, have been a tremendous success, there has been a lack of interest in new volunteers with their organization.

Without new voices joining, he fears that this year's Pride celebrations may be their "last hurrah."

Baynton-Smith shared his coming out journey in his adolescent years. After coming out to his grandparents, he traveled to Scarborough to come out to his parents, who blamed each other for his sexuality.

"It was nobody's fault," said Baynton-Smith. "I was born this way."

Baynton-Smith and Sinclair Russell originally started Minden Pride as a community picnic on the lawn of the Wild Swan Bed and Breakfast in Minden. The event started in a response to the horrific events of the Pulse Nightclub shooting in Orlando and the defacement of an 2SLGBTQIA+ owned business in the county.

This year was the first year to have a flag raising in both Algonquin Highlands and Dysart, as well as Minden Hills. There was no flag raising in Highlands East.

While things have been getting better for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, hatred can still be found in the county, noted Guinan.

While decorating downtown Minden, the volunteers received some hateful comments, reinvigorating their drive and reminding them why Pride must happen.

M.P. Jamie Schmale says that he rushed from Ottawa that morning to attend the flag raising. Due to prior commitments, Mayor Bob Carter and other councillors were unable to attend, noted Johannessen.

From Queer Comedy Nights to Drag Storytime, to the annual floating Pride River Parade, this year's Pride in the Highlands celebrations were a huge success.

With the feel-good events and celebrations, the presence of Pride in the Highlands and members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community are reminders that everyone is welcome and that hate has no home in the Highlands.

With votes against flying the Pride flag in municipalities across Ontario and discriminatory legislation passed in Alberta, Pride in the Highlands' efforts should not be taken for granted. In 2023, Statistics Canada reported that police-reported hate crimes have increased by over 300 per cent from 2016 to 2023.

Pride in the Highlands is an entirely volunteer-run, nonprofit organization. Composed of local residents and business owners, Pride in the Highlands strives to provide an opportunity for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community to share their culture, heritage, and diversity with everyone by fostering a safe community. Visit their website for more information on how to volunteer and their wonderful events year round at www.prideinthehighlands.ca/support-pride.

Pride in the Highlands co-chairs Allan Guinan and Chris Hewson spoke at the Pride in the Highlands flag raising in Minden on Monday, Aug. 18. /THOMAS SMITH staff

Bob Baynton-Smith spoke of his coming out journey at the Pride in the Highlands flag raising held in Minden.

**Pride in Dysart**

The gathering at the first ever Pride flag raising in Dysart et al, hosted by Pride in the Highlands. /photos by Pearl Mansfield

Pride in the Highlands co-chair Chris Hewson addresses the crowd in Dysart during the flag raising on Aug. 18.

RIVERVIEW
FURNITURE & FLOORING

Hours
Mon. to Sat.
9 am - 5pm
Sun.
10am - 3pm

"This Week's Special"

Another Happy Riverview Patron!
Our Customers Shop in both Style and Comfort!

FLOORING
Think Riverview
VISIT OUR 1000 SQ FT SHOWROOM
dedicated to all types of flooring and carpet available by 10 different suppliers which gives you an amazing selection to choose from all at great pricing!
Be Sure To Follow Us Online!

705-286-3167 • 94 Bobcaygeon Rd • DOWNTOWN MINDEN
info@riverview-furniture.com • www.riverview-furniture.com

## Pride in the Highlands

Friends prepare floaties ahead of the Pride in the Highlands parade down the Gull River in Minden on Sunday. /ADAM FRISK staff

Friends get set to float down the Gull River as a part of the annual Pride river float.

The main Pride in the Highlands float makes its way down the Gull River in Minden on Sunday as firefighters look on.

People get set to float down the Gull River

Drag Queens Love Masisi and Plum Vicious pose with a group of Pride-goers, who were among the winners of the best floaty award during the Pride in the Highlands celebration

Canadian pop icon Dani Doucette performs.

# Thrift Warehouse provides vital role in community

THOMAS SMITH
*Journalist*

From left, Sarah Parish, Carole Kester, Trevor Comeau, Payton Somers, Mitchell Van Oosterhout, and Nick Pamplin comprise the Thrift Warehouse's current team. /THOMAS SMITH staff

One person's trash is another's treasure.

But how are you supposed to find that treasure before it ends up in the landfill?

That is the goal of SIRCH Community Services' Thrift Warehouse. To give items a new life before they are buried in the dump, never to be seen again.

Over 15 years ago, local businessman Ted Scholtes had the idea to open a warehouse filled with gently used items. SIRCH has been managing the thrift warehouse for the past decade.

Profits from the sale of the items goes towards programs that support vulnerable families, seniors, and other people in the community.

The Thrift Warehouse is more than just finding great deals. It is a lifeline, social hub, and an environmentally-conscious hidden gem of Haliburton County.

Items first come into the Thrift Warehouse through their large bay door. Gracious donors often line up along the road in the mornings before they are even open. A sign shows a list of rotating items that the thrift store is not accepting, either due to seasonality or their abundance of current stock.

Community impact starts at the hands of SIRCH's Sarah Parish, Trevor Comeau, or Mitchell Van Oosterhout, the three stars of the receiving floor. If you have donated an item to the Thrift Warehouse, you have been greeted with a welcoming smile and a polite thank you for your donation. Every donation is assessed by a staff member to ensure that the quality of the donation meets the standards they have set for their customers.

After donations are accepted, staff sort and clean them (if needed). Items like mason jars can be cleaned and put directly on the shelf. Other houseware items such as cutlery and cups can also be sent right out on the sales floor. Rare and unusual items are researched before they are labelled with an appropriate sticker price.

Electronics and fabrics receive additional attention after entering the warehouse. Every electronic device is thoroughly tested to ensure that it is working. With every type of power cord and video game console controller imaginable, Nick Pamplin is in charge of ensuring that everything works.

A summer student and guitar enthusiast, Pamplin loves the surprise that awaits him every day while working for SIRCH. A lover of older music, Pamplin gets excited every time he gets to try out a CD or cassette before it is sold. From Stratocaster guitars to old P.A. systems, Pamplin says that he has seen every type of media and electronics he can think of.

While he has not had many jobs, Pamplin says that he loves how everyone at SIRCH works as a team and helps each other out when needed.

Beyond the electronic testing area, Payton Somers is in charge of sorting, cleaning, and deodorizing all fabrics and clothing that is donated. Using an industrial dryer, fabrics are treated to kill off anything unwanted and make them have a neutral smell. Previously working as the store's cashier, Somers is fascinated by the variety of items that come through the warehouse's doors.

Somers says that her favourite part of working with SIRCH is the people that come through the doors. Every customer has a story to share and she loves to hear them.

When items are ready, they are priced and are loaded into carts and rolled out to the sales floor. Every item has its area, whether it is electronics, housewares, books, hardware, beds, artworks, or records.

After you find a hidden gem for sale, there is a good chance that the person cashing you out is Carole Kester, the warehouse manager. Every morning, Kester gets to the store at 8:30 a.m. to clean up, unlock the doors, and get the store ready for the day.

For those curious what their most in-demand items are, Kester says that DVD players, microwaves, fridges, washers, dryers, and stoves do not last long on the sales floor.

Walking through the store, everyone has a smile on their face and their eyes dart around, taking in every sight, searching for a treasure.

Approaching one treasure hunter, he says that he takes his family every week to the Thrift Warehouse.

"We come up every week when we are up for the cottage," said loyal customer Peter Hanlon. "Their prices are fantastic."

All items are priced at an accessible level, to ensure dignity and affordability. The labour needed to keep the store stocked, operation costs for the warehouse, opportunity to support SIRCH's charitable programs, and the value of items all contribute to the deal you are getting.

Another highly satisfying part of the job is when staff are able to create packages for those in need, says Kester.

With the intense heat this summer, the Thrift Warehouse has had to close early several times. Fortunately, owner Scholtes installed air conditioning in the store on Aug. 18.

Annually, SIRCH diverts over 100,000 cubic feet of items away from landfills each year. With 89 per cent of every dollar going towards SIRCH's other community programs, know that your next shopping spree contributes directly to food security, educational programs, warming kits, and the ability to bring some ease to those experiencing a moment of crisis.

RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS NORTH

12621 Highway 35, Minden
beside Subway Restaurant

follow us!

REALTOR® MLS MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE®

*Not intended to solicit properties or clients currently listed

# *points of view*

**www.haliburtonecho.ca**
146 Highland Street, P.O. Box 360,
Haliburton, ON, K0M 1S0
705-457-1037

**www.mindentimes.ca**
2 IGA Road, Box 97
Minden, ON, K0M 2K0
705-286-1288

CANADIAN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER AWARD 2018

Published by **White Pine Media Corp**

**JENNIFER MCEATHRON**, General Manager and Sales
jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com

**EMILY STONEHOUSE**, Managing Editor
emily@haliburtonpress.com

**THOMAS SMITH**, Journalist
thomas@haliburtonpress.com

**ADAM FRISK**, Journalist
adam@haliburtonpress.com

**KAREN LONDON**, Production Co-ordinator
karen@haliburtonpress.com

**REED SACHAROFF**, Production

**STACEY POTALIVO**, Production

**LAURA SMITH**, Sales
laura@haliburtonpress.com

**PAUL BANELOPOULOS,** Sales
paul@haliburtonpress.com

**CIRCULATION**
subscriptions@haliburtonpress.com

**INSIDE SALES**
classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

News Media Canada / Médias d'Info Canada
CMCA AUDITED

*Funded by the Government of Canada* | Canada

Letters to the Editor must include name and phone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. White Pine Media reserves the right to reject or edit any submission likely to offend community standards and/or the laws of the land.

Print Subscriptions 1 yr/ $51 (taxes included). Published weekly by White Pine Media
To Subscribe to the Print or Digital edition, email subscriptions@haliburtonpress.com or call 705-457-1037.

## Lens

**Editorial**

*Emily Stonehouse*

AT THE first official flag raising in Dysart by Pride in the Highlands, I brought my kids.

I was thrilled to be there. A first in the community, and a clear-cut action that showcased a community who cares. Kudos to the many staff members and the one councillor who showed up for the historic moment in local history.

I used to be a member of the Pride in the Highlands committee, helping with their social media accounts for a few years. When life got busier, the organization was understanding when I needed to take a break from the volunteer-based group.

But as a member of the behind-the-scenes crew, I had a chance to see what people were saying online. And while there were a few red flags on occasion, for the most part, our social channels were tagged with enthusiasm and joy.

Fast forward to present day, and the online world seems to have been cast in a tar impossible to wipe clean. Hate, vitriol, bitterness, anger. All teeming from individuals hiding behind the comfort of their screens. I've seen organizations who fly the rainbow flags forced to turn off comments, and take down entire posts showcasing their Pride; hidden once again into the shadows of the world, their colours dimmed.

It's worse than it's ever been. And we can point fingers for why, but it's not set in stone. Is it that the 'great' leaders of this world use their platforms to spew hate? Is it because the keyboard warriors of the day are finding their footing when trampling others?

It's not worth focusing on.

I can write a whole editorial dedicated to trying to convince those who carry cruelty in their very cores that they need to do better.

But it won't make any difference. Many of their thoughts are already set in stone.

But here is my glimmer of hope: the next generation.

When I visit the accounts of the many who bring their digital pitchforks to the debate, searching for a pulse on their profile, I note that they are adults. Individuals who should know better, but who are fully formed in their thinking. An editorial won't change their cruel cores.

But, at the first official flag raising in Dysart by Pride in the Highlands, I brought my kids.

While the eldest was in camp, I brought my youngest step-daughter and my toddler son. In a surprise to few, the toddler was busy. Very busy. It was a full-time job to keep eyes on him.

So I handed my camera to the nine-year-old.

And when I went back to look at the photos, I saw Pride through her lens.

She didn't see hate, vitriol, bitterness, anger. She saw people holding hands. She saw colours contrasting with clouds in the sky. She saw smiles, she saw laughter, she saw friends, she saw love. A new lens, a new outlook, on the positivity of Pride, and everything it can represent.

Every photo of that flag raising in this edition is by her. A nine-year-old, who chose to see hope instead of hate, love instead of lashing, Pride instead of pain.

The lens of the next generation: it's worth focusing on.

# Restorative government

**Pair, Ponder**

*Poke, Peel*

*Fay Martin*

DISSATISFACTION WITH how democracy works is widespread at the moment. The longest ballot in Canadian history is making an appearance in a by-election in Alberta – the logic is a bit elusive, but generally the intent is to draw attention to the shortcomings of the First Past the Post approach to weighting votes. The Man Who Would Be King to the south is eviscerating what remains of democracy in that country and appears to be unstoppable. Carnage is happening all over the world and the institutions we created to curtail war seem to twiddle their thumbs. The global economy is in chaos and the market offers a Munch scream of horror and impotence.

There seems to be a building consensus that resuscitating democracy requires that we bring it home and start all over again.

Adrienne Maree Brown peels that onion to the core in a trilogy of dystopian fantasy books (*Grievers, Maroons, Ancestors*) that trace the recovery of Detroit after it is made vulnerable by economic abandonment and victimized by a pandemic virus, H8 (hate: get it?). Dune, an introverted teen who matures in this world, traces the pathway to recovering civilization by practicing 'the repeated motion of care', first for her dying grandmother, rippling into larger circles as she builds community. 'If you want democracy in the world', Brown says in an interview on *Between the Covers,* 'you have to look at how you conduct your own household, how you are every day in the world.' What is democracy, she asks, but a way of caring for each other at a high level?

The assumption underlying Brown's trilogy is that human beings default to care rather than competition in times of crisis. This brings to mind Mark Carney chiding CBC senior reporter Rosie Barton in one of his first press conferences as prime minister. 'Look inside yourself, Rosemary,' Carney said (something like), 'and ask why you presume that my intentions are negative.' That conversation was about Carney's financial assets, but it exposes the default position of negativity and gotcha-ism that masquerades as keeping elected officials accountable. If we treated new hires by expecting the worst of them, we'd soon have no staff. Which, come to think of it, is what seems to be happening in the political sphere.

While wandering in Maastricht, Netherlands, last May, my companion and I investigated something happening in a public building that turned out to be City Hall. In theory admission was guarded, but in reality we were carefully but warmly welcomed. The 'happening' was residents gathering for a birthday party hosted by the mayor for all who had birthdays that month. He arrived, greeted the crowd enthusiastically and whisked them off for a tour of the facility while staff laid out sandwiches and dainties. Wow. I think democracy had a growth spurt that day!

Closer to home, Dave Meslin in *Teardown: Rebuilding Democracy from the Ground Up*, approaches in a different way Brown's idea of 'breaking down the society inside you.' He parses each component of current Canadian political literacy and practice to expose the elements that destroy its efficacy from within. He urges us to start with our kids, our schools, our communities, our service groups to get it right – which he defines as increasing both the quantity and quality of political participation.

Some of his suggestions made me nostalgic. My generation learned the basics of governance as children, in the Red Cross Club, the Students' Union, Ways and Means Committees. We nominated, we campaigned, we voted, we chaired, we took minutes, we kept financial books and defended them, we organized parties and fund-raisers, we did the grunt work, we negotiated improvements to current practice and future priorities. We practiced democracy.

Where did that education go? Why did it disappear? (If it didn't, I'd be delighted to hear!)

You know I'm going to say that competition co-opted caring under the tutelage of capitalism. That the forces that brought Detroit to its knees are not a figment of Brown's imagination but a visible consequence of 'market forces', the gown that capitalism wears. The germ of regenerating democracy are also evident there, based on throw-away invisible people finding their power by caring at various levels. Brown thinks magic is 'the ritual of caring: repetitive, disciplined, knowledgeable'. She thinks everyone has it at their disposal.

If we feel invisible, silenced, impotent, exploited – all the things that democracy was supposed to do away with – it behooves us to look within ourselves to find the magic to turn it around. This starts with caring for ourselves (in harmony with the earth – a theme I'll explore further another time), moving in ever-growing circles -- not to a Utopia, but to a sanctuary that is, by definition, in movement and therefore temporary. What isn't growing is dying. Start tending!

# points of view

## The road to extinction

FIRST, IT was the dinosaurs. Then it was the early pest control professionals – the only people who ever had a vested interest in dinosaurs. The list of species that have gone extinct since then is a long and sad one. The worst part is people are almost always to blame.

We know that allowing a species to go extinct is not right. Yet, when there is a benefit to us, we frequently look away and let it happen.

For instance, we knew that once the dinosaurs were gone, no one would ever have to spend three days cleaning up after a dinosaur pooped on their lawn again. So, we chose to look the other way.

I am going through a very similar moral dilemma now. You see, in our house, right now, the once-common dust bunny is racing headlong towards certain extinction. I'm not going to lie to you. I have just sat idly and watched it happen. I hate vacuuming.

*Steve Galea*

**Loon Tales**

But I remember a time when the dust bunny was ubiquitous in our home. They were in all the usual places, under the couch, bed, and furniture. They also roamed in countless numbers across the open floors in herds that spanned as far as the eye could see. Some of us thought it would always be this way. We thought this was the order of things.

But then Jenn went and bought a Roomba.

The Roomba is a robotic vacuum whose primary prey is the dust bunny. It is an invasive species in our environment, and it roams throughout our house at least once a day, a ruthless and effective hunter of dust bunnies.

So much so, that I haven't seen a dust bunny in the open in five days. The great herds are gone.

But at what cost?

I can't help but wonder what will happen one day when that Roomba has no more dust bunnies to hunt? Will it be satisfied with vacuuming barren floors? Or will it decide it wants to hunt the most dangerous game – man!?

Before you think this is silly, I want you to remember one thing – Jenn programs this thing. Also, there are some days on the weekends when it takes a trained eye to tell me apart from a dust bunny.

Call me paranoid, but I'm preparing for the Rise of the Roomba. In fact, I now have a rudimentary plan. Should I see our Roomba stalking me, displaying any form of aggression, or merely looking at me like it looks at dust bunnies, I will make an immediate tactical retreat downstairs.

Stairs are kryptonite for Roombas. It's their one weakness.

Roombas, as of this moment in time, are incapable of using stairs. But I'm sure that will change in 10 years or so when they become sentient – or when houses have escalators.

By then, however, the dust bunnies will just be a distant memory. Then what will we tell our grandchildren?

So, what can we do to avert this?

Don't buy a Roomba, that's what.

Ours chases me around the house and is generally mean to the pets too. Also, apparently, it always has the right of way. Worse still, it mops and does not place "Wet Floor" signs out.

And, that my friends, can only lead to the fall of man.

**pic** *of the* **past**

It was a tradition in the Chambers family of Carnarvon to go berry picking in mid-August of each year at Trout Lake (now called Sherborne Lake.) The excursions were as much picnics for friends and family as an opportunity to gather berries for canning. This photo was taken in 1913. The pictures, as with other photos made during this period, were developed and printed at home and occasionally processed as postcards. Submitted by Bob Chambers

## Ice cream and crickets

"BREATHE IT all in. Love it all out." Mary Jane Oliver was an American poet who won the Pulitzer Prize in 1984 and the National Book Award in 1992. She spent most of her life in nature and her poems reflected that passion. I love to read her poetry and I get a lot of inspiration from it.

I feel like I spent this weekend breathing it all in, and loving it all out. I had the absolute pleasure of attending the line dancing on Saturday in Minden, at the Minden River Cone.The line dancing was organized by DH3 (Dance Happens Here Haliburton) in partnership with Pride in the Highlands and the River Cone.

*Tales from the great*

*Lynda Shadbolt*

**Green meadow**

I found myself thinking, a community that dances together is strong. People of all ages were participating. Jacquie Bell was the instructor and she made it so easy for everyone to feel immediately welcome, successful and at ease. Her music was great and some people tapped their toes and others danced. I felt like we were breathing out love the whole afternoon. The staff at the River Cone were so delightful and made sure we got our free ice cream cones as quickly as possible.

Less than 24 hours later I was on top of Sir Sam's Ski Hill in Eagle Lake. A small group of people gathered to walk, ride or drive up to the top where the look out is. We gathered together for a quiet Sunday morning yoga class by donation to the Brooksong Retreat and Cancer Support Centre. We started the class by sitting or lying down and breathing with all of life that was there. The trees, the lake, the sky, the birds that were flying overhead. There was a lovely soft breeze and we could hear crickets happily chirping. We remembered our own goodness, and the goodness that was all around us.

We paused and then we moved in creative ways to work on our strength and mobility. At one point we all held a pose and acknowledged something we were grateful for. Eckhart Tolle is a well known meditation teacher and he says: "Acknowledging the goodness that you already have in your life is the foundation for all abundance." As we moved and stretched I felt like we were breathing in all the fresh air and the beauty and loving it all out.

Maybe this is what we have to do right now. Pause, breathe, connect, remember our belonging and that we matter. And then love it all out. Do the things that you are inspired to do to help this planet of ours. It takes every single person to be their best self and contribute in the way that they can. We are all at different stages and ages in our journey, and we all have something to contribute. What a great county we live in where so much good happens. Keep breathing it all in and loving it all out.

letters to the editor

# *Pic of the past location identified*

We would like to thank our readers for taking the time to help identify a location presented in last week's Pic of the Past. While we heard from quite a few readers, the two submitted letters below outline the location in great detail. Please note that original attachments submitted were omitted based on space.

Thank you again for taking the time to solve a great mystery!

**To the Editor,**

This photo was taken from the foot of the Dorset tower shortly after the Highway 35 bypass and bridge around Dorset were constructed. My father, Alan Gordon, who worked at the Frost Centre in the mid '50s, had a similar photo taken on a fall day. Lake of Bays proper is on the right and Hollow River Bay is on the left. There were agricultural fields around Hollow River Bay up until the 1960s, especially on the south side, and my dad sometimes took me as a young boy walking, in both forests and fields there. Occasionally, we would run into the McKays, who lived in the clump of trees you can see to the left of the bridge. Roy McKay, former MNR forest technician, still lives there.

**Andy Gordon,**
**Minden Hills**

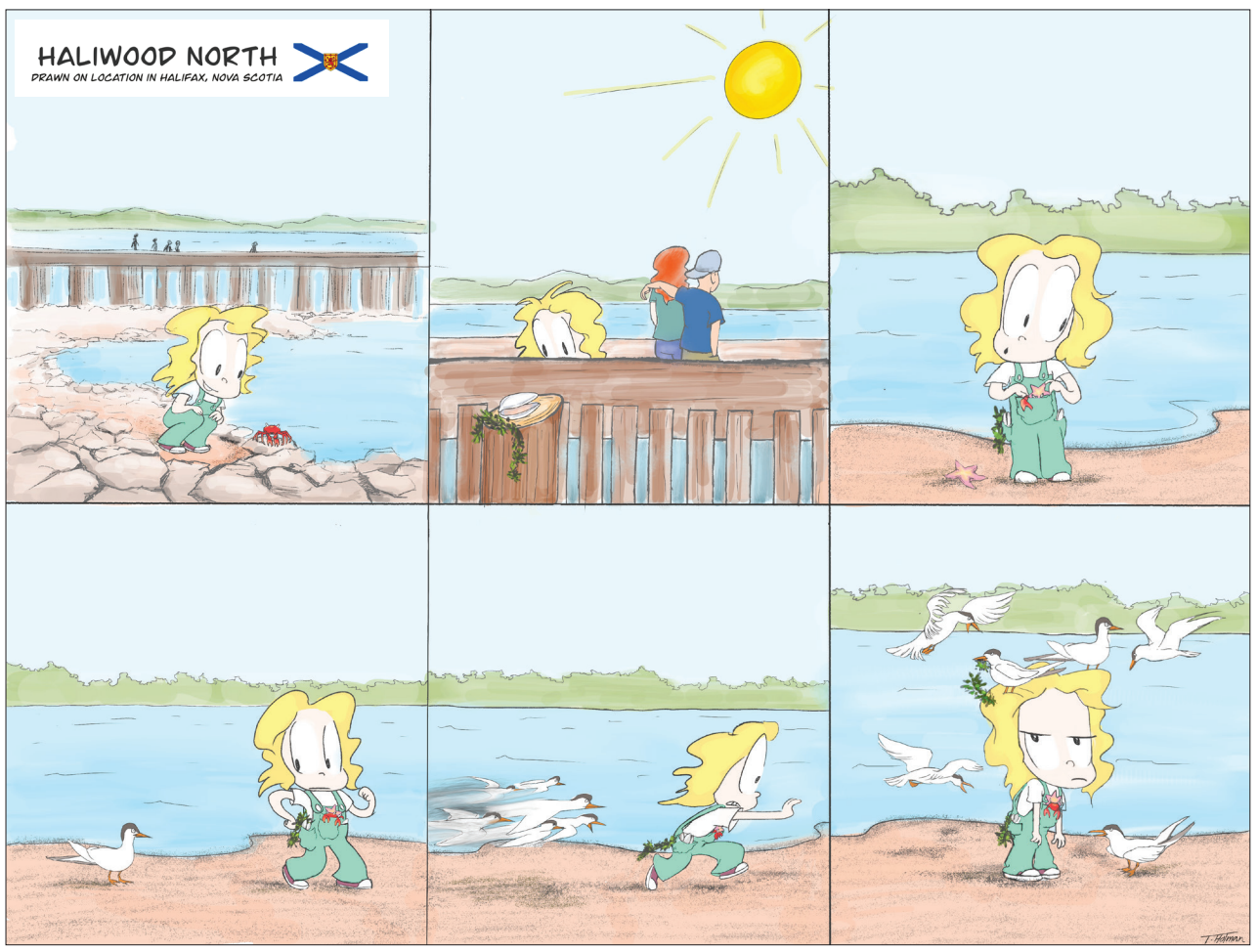
**To the Editor,**

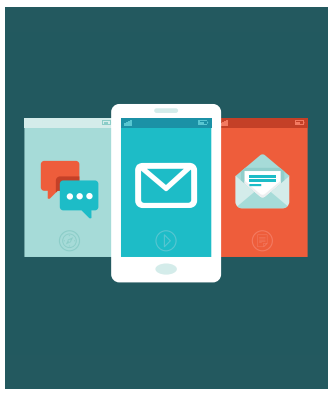
I believe the Pic of the Past in the August 19, 2025 edition was taken from the Dorset Lookout, looking south on the Highway 35 bridge over the Dorset Narrows.

It wasn't hard. The oak tree was the giveaway.

Here's my challenge to the *Times*: Ask your readers to date the photo from the features they can see, and to name the young couple. I'm guessing they would be in the 80s today. It would be quite a story if they could be found and were still together.

**Peter Hynard,**
**Minden**



Have a thought, comment or opinion you'd like to share?

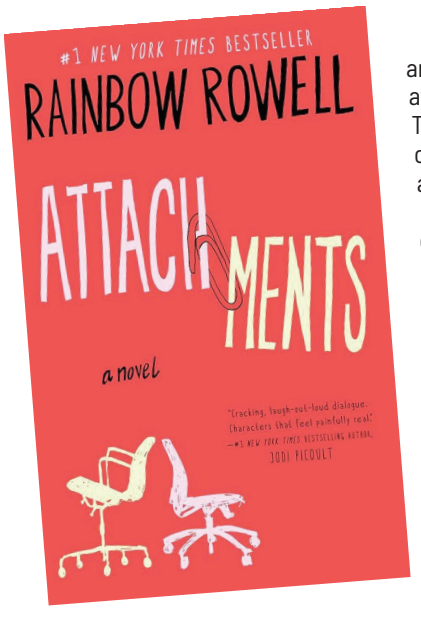
Send a letter to the editor to
emily@haliburtonpress.com

## *Minden Memories*

Haying was a labour-intensive task when this photo was taken in 1943 at the Peel farm on Hilton Point Road, just north of Norland. Horses pulled the wagon, while workers loaded and unloaded the hay by hand. On the wagon are Vic Peel and Ken Twiner; on the ground are Lorne Peel and Gord Rooney. /Photo courtesy of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre

HALIBURTON COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Book of the Week




Beth and Jennifer know their work emails are being monitored (it's company policy, after all) but they can't help themselves. They carry on sending each other hilariously candid messages discussing every aspect of their personal lives.

Lincoln, the new internet security officer, never imagined his job would mostly involve reading coworkers' emails instead of battling cybercriminals. When he stumbles across Beth and Jennifer's witty exchanges, he's torn between duty and amusement. Before long, he realizes he's falling for Beth but is it too late to make a move? What would he even say?

*Attachments* by Rainbow Rowell is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library. To place a hold or learn more, visit haliburtonlibrary.ca.

# Belly dancer hopes to inspire local dancers

THOMAS SMITH

*Journalist*

Victoria Kramkowski will be running a belly dancing workshop on Wednesday, Aug. 27 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Haliburton Highlands Brewing. /Submitted

Victoria Kramkowski's favourite way to meet people in the community is through belly dancing.

A Toronto native, Kramkowski and her family purchased a cottage in the Carnarvon area two years ago.

After visiting Haliburton Highlands Brewing, Kramkowski was struck by how lively of an arts scene the brewery hosted with live music nights, a ukelele shop, and other programming happening all the time.

While growing up, Kramkoski danced ballet like many young kids. The first time she ever saw belly dancing was when she was brought to her mother's work party.

'"I thought it was so beautiful, so amazing," said Kramkowski.

Without a belly dancing studio nearby, Kramkowski was in her 20s when she revisited her dream of belly dancing.

Living her dream, she has been belly dancing for the past 20 years.

While there are many types of belly dancing, Kramkowski specializes in Egyptian style belly dance, or raqs sharki. While this style has roots in Egyptian social and folkloric dancing, raqs sharki was heavily influenced by the vaudeville style performers of the 1900s and continues to be influenced by western dancers today.

Kramkowski typically teaches people cabaret style dance moves. The movements are simple, yet elegant. All ages are invited to participate in the class, says Kramkowski. In the past, she has taught both children and at retirement centres.

"Belly dancing looks beautiful on every type of body," said Kramkowski. "I love dancing with, and for women."

Kramkowski says that unlike ballet, people can belly dance their entire lives, regardless of your age. It is a great workout too, getting you up and moving, while using your core and other muscles that may not be getting much attention. Belly dancing gives you a cardio workout through moving and Kramkowski says it is great for strength training, especially your arms, shoulders, and legs.

One unexpected benefit with belly dancing is increasing your body's awareness. Through isolating movements and coordination, you can learn about your own body better and better use your muscles.

Throughout the workshop, Kramkowski works towards teaching choreography that students can take home and dance at home.

"I love when I have brand new students belly dancing," said Kramkowski. "I get to watch them grow and progress."

Balancing her time between living and working in Mississauga and visiting the cottage, Kramkowski hopes to build an interest in belly dancing in Carnarvon and one day, start their own belly dancing troupe.

While women are Kramkowski's primary demographic, everyone is welcome to participate in the workshop, with the stipulation that they are participating with an open mind and are coming to dance.

Participation in the belly dancing workshop costs $20 per person. All participants are encouraged to wear what is comfortable. It is highly recommended to wear pants, leggings, or shorts in order to see your leg movements. Belly dancers typically dance barefoot, but you can dance in your socks or dancing slippers, if you have them.

The next belly dancing workshop will be taking place on Wednesday, Aug. 27 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Haliburton Highlands Brewing. Refreshments will be available, including non-alcoholic options.

"It's a great time," said Kramkowski.

# MVPs

Finally (and I mean FINALLY) Haliburton got its rain! And it mostly arrived Tuesday evening during one of our glorious soccer matches (of course!) It was wet and gloomy and a welcomed surprise to all the dry heat we have been getting these last few months. Those that braved the downpour were in high spirits as we merged teams to adapt to the smaller number of players and adjust for the slippery grass and slick soccer ball. The 10-13 boys teams "voluntold" the coaches to play Keeper as the strikers launched devastating shots on nets all game long. Nominating them for MVPs was a very fitting reward for the hard work they have put in this year. Up the road, the Boys 7-9 age groups kept the field alive with an amazing turn out as these young superstars learn to get comfortable in uncomfortable situations... "It's only water, now let's have fun!" Our Thursday night teams benefited from a lusher grass and cooler air, and the Girls and Co-ed teams met with more vigour than previously expected. With one more week in the season, the gameplay is at its peak and we will hopefully end the season on a high note!

*Submitted by Andrew Brown*

Lincoln Brown & Matt Renda - Boys 10-13 - Coaches (Goal Keepers)

Sydney Holman - Co-ed 4-6 - Purple Team

Aliyah Cox - Girls 10-11 - Navy Team

Easton Walker & Ander Brown - Boys 7-9 - Purple Team

*Grassroots Soccer proudly sponsored by*

BOSHKUNG BREWING CO.
AWARD WINNING BEER, GREAT FOOD & GOOD COMPANY
20 WATER STREET, MINDEN • BOSHKUNGBREWING.COM

BUILDING IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD
HALIBURTON №1 CREW
705-457-CREW
info@haliburtoncrew.com
WWW.HALIBURTONCREW.COM
Andrew Brown

*To become a Grassroots Soccer sponsor contact Andrew Brown at andrew@haliburtoncrew.com*

# MVPs

Georgette Stewart & Sophia - Girls 7-9 - Kiwi Team

Jalynn Chambers and Fynnley Miscio - Girls 12-13 - Green Team

Phoenix Darling - Girls 7-9 - Purple Team

Hazel Townsend - Girls 7-9 - Silver Team

Skyla Pettes - Girls 10-11 - White Team

*Grassroots Soccer proudly sponsored by*

(705)457-7071
Haliburton
PADDLE SHOP
.COM
Sustainably Handcrafted Wooden Canoe Paddles & More

KEGEL
HEATING & COOLING
Bus: 705-341-9170
Email: info@kegelheatingandcooling.ca
• Geothermal Systems
• Furnaces
• Fireplaces
• Hot Water Tanks
• Air Conditioning
• HRV's
• Radiant Floor Heating
• Chimneys
• Ductwork
• Heat Pumps
• Gas Piping
• Boilers
• AND MORE

TRILLIUM TEAM.ca™
EST. 1976 • BEEN THERE, SOLD THAT!
POWERED BY ROYAL LEPAGE LAKES of HALIBURTON
ROYAL LEPAGE NATIONAL TOP 5% 2024

**LOON LAKE $3,000,000**

- 5,000 Sq Ft 3 + 2 Bedroom Luxury Home
- 800 Ft Waterfront, Panoramic Views
- 850+ Sq Ft Deck with Glass Panels, Hot Tub
- Triple Garage, 1800 Sq Ft Heated Workshop
- Too Many Features to List – Must Be Seen!

**EAGLE LAKE $1,989,900**

- 3 Bedroom + Loft, 3 Bathroom Custom Built Home / Cottage
- 136 Feet Shoreline with Sandy Beach and Southwest Views
- Screened Porch, 2 Stone Fireplaces, Master with Ensuite & Walkout
- Full Finished Basement with Waterfront Walkout
- Year Round Access, Turn Key Ready

**GOODERHAM LAKE $1,475,900**

- 4 Bedroom, 4 Bath Home with 4,000+ Sq Ft Living Space
- 205 Ft Clean Sandy Shoreline, Landscaped Lot
- Media Room, Guest Room, 2 Workshops
- A short Walk to Store, LCBO, Park, Community Centre
- Must Be Seen to be Appreciated

**DRAG LAKE $1,099,900**

- 2 Bedroom Classic Cottage on Level Lot
- 335 Feet Clean Rocky Shoreline
- Ultimate Privacy on 9.31 Acres
- Bunkie / Dry Boathouse, Marine Railway, Shed
- A Rare Waterfront Gem on Desired Lake

**MAPLE LAKE $1,000,000**

- 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Year Round Home / Cottage
- 103 Ft Sand Beach on 3 Lake Chain
- Landscaped, Gardens, Stone Patio & Walkways
- Oversized Insulated Garage with Studio
- Level Lot, Stunning Lake Views

**ELK DRIVE $799,900**

- 3 Bedroom, 2 Storey, 3200+ Sq Ft Home on Level Lot
- 1.39 Acres, Landscaped, Covered Porch, In Law Capability
- Master w Private Deck, Ensuite with 6' Jacuzzi
- Walking Distance Access to 2 Lake Chain
- Minutes from Public Beach, Gas, LCBO, Groceries and More

**GREEN LAKE $699,900**

- 2+1 Bedroom Open Concept Home on 3 Lake Chain
- 1.29 Acres, Sandy Shoreline, Expansive Views
- Large Lakeside Deck, 1.5 Car Detached Garage
- Bunkie with Loft, Garden Shed, Firepit Area
- Year Round Road, Close to Amenities

**LOOP ROAD $599,900**

- 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, Brick Bunglaow
- Partially Finished Basement, Ample Storage
- Attached Heated Double Garage
- Large Foyer with Heated Floor, Bonus Room
- Large Yard, Hot Tub, Garden, Sheds

**ESSON LAKE $575,000**

- Classic 3 Bedroom 3 Season Cottage at Waters Edge
- Western Sunset Views, Undeveloped lands Across Lake
- Clean Hard Sand Shoreline, Gradual Entry, Deep Water off Dock
- Gazebo, Dry Boathouse, Large Deck, Level Lot
- What Cottaging is Meant to be

**Anthony vanLieshout, CRA, Broker of Record**
**Marcia Bell* Chris James****
**Cathy Bain***
based on closed and collected commissions, Royal LePage, since 2008. *Sales Representatives **Broker

**Call/Text 705-935-1000**
**trilliumteam.ca**

# Love to sing? My Pop Choir coming to Haliburton

ADAM FRISK
*Journalist*

Whether you sing in the shower, in the car or while walking down the frozen food section at the grocery store, if you like to belt out tunes then a new choir coming to Haliburton just might be for you.

My Pop Choir, an audition-free adult community choir, is set to open a Haliburton chapter next month, led by some homegrown talent.

"The choir is for people who love to sing, not necessarily for professionals or for people who have a lot of experience, it's really accessible, it's for anyone," Jocelyn Regina, choir director and co-owner of Haliburton chapter, said in an Aug. 20 telephone interview. "The idea is that it's this fun, welcoming and joyful space to come together and to sing music together.

"It's just really fun to sing with other voices," Regina said.

The classically trained vocalist and pianist said the choir will focus on singing pop music in a low-pressure environment that meets weekly for 90-minute sessions.

"So we do pop songs, ranging from old stuff, new stuff, basically anything between the 50s to stuff that comes out this year," Regina said.

Choir members learn the songs through sheet music and by ear during the weekly sessions, Regina said. Several online resources to help session members learn the songs are also provided so being able to read music is not a requirement.

My Pop Choir was founded in the fall of 2011 by Jacqueline Curtis. Her vision was to create a welcoming environment for adults who love singing pop, rock, and R&B music, while building a sense of community. In 2014, Alex Fiddes had joined the organization as a choir director and took over the reins of My Pop Choir in 2019 after being motivated by the transformative impact of music on the members of the choir.

The choir has since grown with several chapters throughout southern Ontario and two in B.C.

Regina joined the choir in 2019 and began directing the Richmond Hill, Ont, chapter before directing the Thornhill and Lawrence Park chapters. Having moved back to Haliburton with her husband and two children, Regina still wanted to follow her passion for music and decided to start a chapter in the village.

"As soon as we even started talking about moving back to Haliburton, I knew that I would want to start a choir up here because it's something I really enjoy doing and music is really important to me and it's fun to do it," Regina said.

Registration for Haliburton's first fall term is already open with the first session starting on Sept. 11. The fall session runs for 12 weeks with a membership cost of $22 per week before taxes. The choir meets every Thursday at the United Church from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

Regina is also offering members of the public to try a free "pop-in" session to see whether My Pop Choir is of interest to them. However, those who might be interested in the pop-in session should reach out to Regina at jocelynregina@gmail.com to sign up.

# Local businesses step in to support Skyline project

**from page 1**

viewing platform and people are keenly interested in the project. And they're from all over the place, it's locals, it's people cottaging here, it's everybody," Wheeler said.

Many businesses have either provided supplies at cost or have donated the materials towards the project.

"We have a lot of companies that have supplied material either at cost or for free. So the granular material that is for the bus parking spaces and what's going to be the upper viewing platform, that was all supplied free," Wheeler said. "So we are going to have a donor board at some point that will list all the people who made a financial contribution or who gave products and services, so eventually we will have that up to acknowledge all those people who have given us materials either at cost or for free."

The Skyline Park project is expected to be completed in 2027.

# West Guilford Notes

*community news*
west guilford
*Eleanor Cooper*

If you happened to pass the Cooper farmstead on August 16, you would have noticed the lane and backyard all full of cars and people. Two birthdays, George and Alan celebrate on this date. The second significant banner was raised in recognition of George's retirement. Four couples who had worked together at the Frost Centre still get together annually for old times sake. All were present on the 16. Friends were present from St. George's Church included Bill Gliddon whose large tent was borrowed for the occasion, although four others were raised as well. My three sisters came and several relatives from Barrie. They were joined by Coopers from Guilford of course and others from Woodstock. Of course the pipes had to be played. Brian Sachs and the three boys with George made sure part of the entertainment was displayed. Songs were sung both before and after darkness fell. North Entrance Masonic Lodge was represented by several of that membership and friends. Both old and new were also happy to join the happy throng. All together the happy birthday banner and that of the happy retirement will long be remembered.

# That's a wrap! Local artists decorate downtown

EMILY STONEHOUSE
*Editor*

The town of Haliburton is about to get brighter.

On Friday, Aug. 22, Dysart's Pump It Up Art Project closed its month-long contest, where artists from across the Haliburton Highlands were asked to submit original artwork depicting nature or outdoor activity in the region.

In total, the contest received a variety of submissions from 21 different local artists. The pieces are in consideration for decorating the utility boxes at pumping stations in Dysart et al. "If you travel all over the country, in different towns, you'll see commissioned artists who have done these paintings or vinyl wraps," said Jim Blake, the chair of Dysart's Cultural Resources Committee. "They're all over the place, including the City of Kawartha Lakes."

The neighbouring county currently has 30 wrap projects completed, said Blake, who noted that he and Victoria Bingham, a fellow member of the local Cultural Resource Committee, tapped into the skill-set and services from the experienced community. "They've been hugely helpful," he said, "We did a lot of research on how other communities ran their programs, and how they recruited artists."

For Dysart, the township put out a call to local artists, with the primary requirement being that they must either be a permanent or seasonal resident of the Haliburton Highlands. Other requirements include being over the age of 12, the completion of a two-dimensional art form in any medium, with the exception of photography, and must be able to have the piece reproduced as a high-resolution digital document.

The images will be selected from a juried process, and from there, transferred to a UV-resistant vinyl that will wrap the pumping station, with the intention of lasting under the elements for at least five to seven years, based on conditions. "We are still waiting on some quotes for the boxes though," noted Blake, indicating that the stations vary in shapes and sizes. The vinyl placement will allow for the unit to still be fully-functioning, just with a splash of colour.

The Cultural Resources Committee has a budget they work within each year, which is where the approved funding will be coming from based on the quotes provided. The County of Haliburton has also stepped in and offered financial assistance behind the initiative, with Dysart's public works department offering support along the way. The goal is to get the wraps in place by September of this year, but that will be weather-dependent. If conditions do not allow for a fall installation, the mini-murals will be bumped to next spring.

"Stay tuned for more updates," chuckled Blake, noting that the juried process will take place next week, with local artists featured to be announced in the coming weeks. The *Echo* will feature the selected artists from the juried process once information becomes available.

**Library Pride**
Auntie Plum reads to eager listeners during Haliburton's Drag Story Time last Thursday, put on by the Haliburton County Public Library, in collaboration with Pride in the Highlands. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

**Municipality of Dysart et al**
135 Maple Ave., P.O. Box 389,
Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0
Telephone: (705) 457-1740
Email: info@dysartetal.ca
Website: www.dysartetal.ca

NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING
**COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT**

- **DATE:** Wednesday, September 10th, 2025
- **TIME:** 11:00 am.
- **LOCATION:** The Committee of Adjustment meeting will be held in the Council Chambers and electronically via Zoom. The meeting will be live streamed to YouTube.

**APPLICATIONS:**

1. D13-MV-2025-017 Cox

- The following variances are requested to permit the size and design of a private cabin and the location of a water closet within an accessory structure on a lot located in the WR4 zone:

  a) A variance to Section 3.1(e)(ii) to permit a private cabin to be located on two storeys as opposed to the requirement of being located entirely on one storey.

  b) A variance to Section 3.1(e)(iii) to permit the maximum gross floor area of a private cabin to be 55 square metres (576 square feet), as opposed to the permitted maximum gross floor area of 45 square metres (484 square feet).

  c) A variance to Section 3.1(a)(iii) to permit a water closet to be located in a private garage.

- Location: Part Lot 8, Concession 7, in the Geographic Township of Dysart, in the Municipality of Dysart et al.
  Roll No. 011-000-10600 – 3403 Kashagawigamog Road

2. D13-MV-2025-019 Honderich

- The following variance is requested to permit a garage to have a decreased street setback on a lot located in the WR4 zone:

  a) A variance to Section 3.30(c) to permit a garage to have a street setback from the edge of the travelled portion of Remembrance Lane of 6 metres (19.6 feet) as opposed to the permitted 7.5 metres (25 feet).

- Location: Part Lot 1, Concession 1, Plan 19R-1462, Parts 1 to 3 in the Geographic Township of Harcourt, in the Municipality of Dysart et al.
  Roll No. 030-000-01100 – 1024 Remembrance Lane

3. D13-MV-2025-020 Knowles

- The following variances are requested to permit an additional dwelling unit to have an increased size and for it to be located in the front yard on a lot in the RU1 zone:

  a) A variance to Section 3.1(c)(x) to permit an additional dwelling unit to be a maximum of 90% of the gross floor area of the main dwelling unit as opposed to the permitted maximum of 75%.

  b) A variance to Section 3.1(c)(viii) to permit an additional dwelling unit to be located in the front yard.

- Location: Part Lot 6, Concession 2, in the Geographic Township of Dudley, in the Municipality of Dysart et al.
  Roll No. 020-000-15601 – 16505 Highway 118

4. D13-MV-2025-022 Pentland

- The following variances are requested to permit the size of a private cabin and the attached deck on the accessory structure on a lot located in the WR6L zone:

  a) A variance to Section 3.1(e)(iii) to permit the maximum gross floor area of a private cabin to be 55 square metres (576 square feet), as opposed to the permitted maximum gross floor area of 45 square metres (484 square feet).

  b) A variance to Section 3.1(f)(ii) to permit the maximum floor area of a second storey to be 55 square metres (576 square feet), as opposed to the permitted maximum floor area of 45 square metres (484 square feet) where a private cabin is on the second storey.

  c) A variance to Section 3.1(f)(iii) to permit the maximum total ground floor area of open decks, patios and balconies attached or within 2 metres of a private cabin to be 29 square metres (312 square feet) as opposed to the permitted maximum ground floor area of 15 square metres (161.4 square feet).

- Location: Part Lot 28, Concession 9, Plan 19R-8200, Part 1 in the Geographic Township of Guilford, in the Municipality of Dysart et al.
  Roll No. 041-000-51002 – 1111 White Fawn Trail

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** about electronic meetings and public participation in an electronic meeting, contact the Secretary-Treasurer at ameijer@dysartetal.ca.

**ANY PERSON** is entitled to attend the hearing to express his/her views about these applications or may be represented by an agent for that purpose. If you do not attend the hearing the Committee may proceed in your absence, and you will not be entitled to any further notice of the proceedings. The Committee will accept oral and written submissions.

**A COPY OF THE DECISION** will be sent to the applicant, the agent and to each person who has filed with the Secretary-Treasurer a written request for notice of the decision.

**FURTHER INFORMATION**: including specific information about the zone provisions affected by each application, and electronic meeting process is available from the Planning and Land Information Department at the Municipal Office by appointment only (8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday) or by phoning 705-457-1740.

Adam Meijer
Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment

# NATURE'S CANVAS

**EXPERIENCE COLOURS**

**September – October**

MY Haliburton HIGHLANDS

**myhaliburtonhighlands.com**

FALL COLOUR UPDATES

# Costume swap makes Halloween accessible for all

EMILY STONEHOUSE
*Editor*

It may seem like summer is just winding down and Halloween is way off on the horizon, but the Haliburton County Public Library (HCPL) is already thinking ahead to spooky season.

This will be the first year that HCPL will be hosting a Halloween Costume Swap - a program available to everyone and anyone interested in donating or picking up some new-to-you costumes. "It felt like the perfect fit for our community," said Shawna Gamblen, programming and outreach coordinator with the library. "A fun, budget-friendly, and eco-conscious way for families to get ready for Halloween. Best of all, it helps make the celebration barrier-free so everyone can take part."

The idea was inspired by similar programs run by other libraries across the country, as well as the Great Haliburton Clothing Swap, which was facilitated in collaboration between the Municipality of Dysart et al and Fleming College.

The library will be accepting costumes in all sizes, from babies all the way up to adult, "as well as fun extras like hats, wigs, masks, costume jewellery, and props," said Gamblen. She noted that as long as things are clean and gently used, they will be readily accepted. On the day of the swap, all donations will be organized by size and type, so it will be easy to find something that works.

While Gamblen notes that Halloween is a fun time, it can also be expensive, especially considering the costume is only used for one day. "We wanted to create something that takes away that stress and makes it easier for everyone to join in the fun," she said. "A swap is budget-friendly, eco-friendly, and totally barrier-free - you don't need to donate to participate. It's about saving money, reducing waste, and building a tradition that brings our whole community together."

Costumes can be dropped off at any HCPL branch across the county between Sept. 12 and Oct. 10. On Oct. 11, the Minden and Dysart branches will be open for all to shop the "new-to-you" costume collections, free of charge. Remaining costumes will be brought to Stanhope and Wilberforce to be featured on Oct. 18." And remember, anyone can take part - even if you don't have a costume to give," reminded Gamblen.

The Halloween Costume Swap is one of the many programs offered by the HCPL to provide support and services to the community. For the full list of coming events, visit their website at www.haliburtonlibrary.ca. "We're proud to offer this as just one of many free resources your library provides to bring people together," said Gamblen. "Whether it's costumes, books, or programs, the library is here to connect our community, spark creativity, and make sure everyone feels welcome."

## Art in the East

The 23rd annual Highlands East Studio Tour took place this past weekend, featuring the work of artists living in Highland Grove, Harcourt, Wilberforce, Tory Hill, Gooderham and Irondale in east Haliburton County. Pictured above, Elaine Beetison showcases her work, seen below as well.
/TIM YANO staff photographer

Above, Chuck Lewis stands in front of his landscape pieces, depicting the natural environment. Below, Sue Riley shows he colourful works of art.

# CANADIAN HOME PLAN EMMERSON LUMBER & COTTAGE COUNTRY BUILDING SUPPLIES

castle building centres

STIHL

Husqvarna

1000s of Home & Cottage Designs available. Visit one of our certified Home & Cottage Designers.

emmersonlumber.com
(705) 457-1550

cottagecountrybuildingsupplies.com
(705) 489 2212

EMMERSON RENT-ALL

Celebrating 30 Years!
CHURKO ELECTRIC
office: (705) 457-4576
office@churkoelectric.com
Haliburton County Home Builders Association
STEVE CHURKO
Professionalism at "Your Service"
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL

DAVIDSON CONSTRUCTION
DECKS • GARAGES • RENOVATIONS
Insured • WSIB • 20 yrs experience
Jeff Davidson
705-457-0025
jeffdavidsonconstruction@gmail.com

G.J. BURTCH CONSTRUCTION
ENTERPRISES LTD | SINCE 1984
CUSTOM HOMES
COTTAGES • INTERIORS
(705) 457-3837 info@gjburtch.com

BISHOP GEYER
SURVEYING INC.
(705) 457-2811
www.bgsurveys.ca

BRAUN
CUSTOM BUILDS
Trust us to build your dream
Cottages · Custom Homes · Garages
Additions/Renovations · Project Management
705-457-6807 Serving Haliburton County and the Surrounding Area
brauncustombuilds.ca · office@brauncustombuilds.ca

TTR Inc.
• SEPTIC INSTALLATION
• DRILLING & BLASTING
• FULL SITE PREPARATION
• LANDSCAPING
• SHORELINE RESTORATION
• TREE REMOVAL
• FIREWOOD SALES
• LOGGING
☆FULLY INSURED☆
Fast Quality Service Every Time!
Mike Toye
contact@ttrinc.ca
705-457-7570

Above Board Carpentry
Integrity | Ingenuity
Graham Borgdorff
705.455.2196
info@aboveboardcarpentry.com
www.aboveboardcarpentry.com

LODGE Construction
BUILD • EXPAND • MAINTAIN
705-306-0164
Haliburton
brad@lodgeconstruction.ca
www.lodgeconstruction.ca
@lodge_construction

COLDWATER CUSTOM CONSTRUCTION
A Homeowner's Best Choice
coldwatercustoms.ca
705-306-9780

Blair SAND AND GRAVEL
Site Prep - Septic Installation
Road Building - Aggregates
705-457-1349
BLAIRSANDANDGRAVEL@GMAIL.COM
15527 Hwy. 118
Haliburton

SILVER FOX EXCAVATING & LANDSCAPING
• Lot Clearing
• Site Prep
• Retaining Walls
• Licensed Septic Installer
• ICF Installers
steve@silverfoxexcavating.ca
silverfoxexcavating.ca
705 457 5900

SAVAGE RENOVATIONS PROPERTY CARE
» Kitchen, Bath, Basement Renos
» Tiling
» Garages, Decks, Bunkies
» Drywall & Paint
» Property Maintenance and Management
Owners: Amar & Tara Mathura
a.t@savagehaliburton.ca
Call or Text: 705-854-0006

PETRINI CONSTRUCTION
EXTERIOR FINISHING
Soffit · Fascia · Siding · Roofing
Doors & Windows
5" Seamless Eavestrough
Gutter Protection System
petriniconstruction.com
Nathan Petrini 705-457-2754

Fully Completely Carpentry EST 1999
DAVID PORTER
Owner
Honesty
Integrity
Results
705-306-0951 ~ 705 489 9839
fullycompletelycarpentry@gmail.com
fullycompletelycarpentry.ca

Walker's HEATING & COOLING SYSTEMS
Furnaces, Heat Pumps, Air Conditioners, Boilers, Floor Warming Systems, Water Heaters, Fireplaces, Geothermal Systems, Sheet Metal & Duct Installation
705-457-2375
www.walkershvac.com

WOODLANDS CUSTOM STRUCTURES
building it right the first time
Custom Homes, Cottages & Garages
Jeff Sharpless
705-935-1192
woodlandscustomstructures@gmail.com

STINSON & COMPANY
LANCE STINSON
705.754.2607
stinson.lance2019@gmail.com
SITE PREPARATION ▪ DRIVEWAYS
ROAD BUILDING
EXCAVATIONS ▪ SAND & GRAVEL
LICENSED SEPTIC INSTALLER

TMS SERVICES
Licensed Septic Service
Excavating • Haulage • Landscaping
Mitch Stephen
Shop
705-457-9229

CUSTOM HOMES • RENOS
DECKS • SIDING • FRAMING
TERRELAC EST 1959
TERRELACPROPERTIES.COM
TERRELACPROPERTIESLIMITED

Jeff Howe
EAVES TROUGHING
Seamless Trough
Minden
705-457-0787
jeffhoweconstruction
@hotmail.com

LICENSED CARPENTER
CUSTOM CABINET MAKER
Hodgkinson Enterprises Inc.
Kevin Hodgkinson
705.306.0485
kevin@hodgkinsonbuilds.com
Serving Haliburton & Surrounding Areas

Francis THOMAS CONTRACTING
SERVING HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS
SINCE 1934
☑ Site Work
☑ Aggregates
☑ Septic Install & Service
☑ Foundations
705-489-2711
Haliburton County has trusted Thomas Contracting for more than 90 years.

INNOVATIVE CONSTRUCTION
CUSTOM HOME DESIGNS
Cottages • Renovations
Additions • Decks
Isaac Brannigan
Phone: 705-457-0877
info@innovativebydesign.ca
Visit Our Website: www.innovativebydesign.ca

BALDRY
Baldry Carpentry
Full Service Contractor
www.baldrycarpentry.ca
Trusted Craftmanship Since 1983
baldrycarpentry@gmail.com - 705-457-5769
Fully insured, WSIB compliant

# A Knight in shining sounds

*How one musician plans to share sounds in the Haliburton Highlands*

EMILY STONEHOUSE
*Editor*

Musician and sound technician Mike Knight has been around music long enough to bring his expertise to his own sound studio, in the heart of the Haliburton Highlands. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

It's one of the senses that truly connects us to the world.

Through sound, we hear the cries of our babies. We hear laughter from our friends. We hear our names being called, our dogs welcoming us home.

And most importantly, we hear music. That universal language that crosses oceans and ages, that transcends time and space.

To Mike Knight, he's always felt a passion for bringing those sounds to life.

"I don't wear headphones when I do sound," he said, while we toured his work-in-progress sound studio on a rainy Tuesday afternoon. "I want to hear it the way others hear it. The way we all hear it together."

But we're getting ahead of ourselves.

The story of Mike's commitment to showcasing and sharing sounds started in a place far away. South London, 1966, to be exact.

"Music has always been a part of my life," laughed Mike, a Canadian for many years now, but the British lilt still clinging to his vowels. "The first music I really got into was rock and roll."

While Mike shared that he was raised in a household that believed children should be "seen not heard," his older brother was responsible for introducing him to some of the rock and roll greats of London in the 1970s. "I wanted to be a drummer," recalled Mike. "But we could never have afforded a drum kit. So I turned to guitar, but couldn't figure out the chords. Finally, I landed on bass."

He remembers being introduced to the Beatles for the first time, and how that was one of the first examples of a band he began to appreciate and grow with, as his own worldly experiences continued to evolve. Music can have that effect.

By the 1980s, Mike was joining bands across the United Kingdom. He's played over 500 semi-professional gigs as a bassist in his lifetime. "We travelled around a lot," he recalled, noting that his favourite gig he ever played was overlooking Niagara Falls, right over-top of the rushing waters.

He took a hiatus when he was married, and started a family.

But when that marriage ended in divorce, sending him into a tailspin of turbulence, he took on a part-time job working in a rehearsal studio. "And this was where I really found music again," said Mike. "Overnight, my whole interest in music opened up again. I started getting to know myself again."

While he was working the graveyard shift at the studio, he met a metal band, who was complaining about a poor recording they had received from another agency. "And a lightbulb went off," said Mike. "I saw a gap in the industry."

He went to work, with his passion for music fuelling his process, and developed a system for remote live recordings using a travelling PC desktop; providing the band with a CD as a finished product. Bands flocked to the initiative, and Mike's mastery of understanding sound dynamics put him on the map.

With his journey back on track for making music, Mike was ready to open his mind and heart to the premise of love once again. This was when he met Kim, who was teaching in Scotland at the time.

But here's the kicker: while Kim was teaching abroad, her homebase was Canada.

"And I followed her home," laughed Mike.

The two share a home right between Haliburton and Minden, where soft twinkle lights hang from the ceiling, and musical art adorns every wall. "I do, I love music," said Kim. "We always had the radio on growing up. It's just always been a part of my life."

With records and CDs stacked neatly in each corner, it's apparent that the couple spends time on that common ground together. They shared memories of traveling to Graceland together, their love of music fuelling their drive.

While neither work locally full-time, with commitments to jobs outside the county, they chose the community for the property. "I always say, do we want location for work, or quality of life, and I will always choose quality of life," said Mike.

And that quality of life extended beyond the resident humans of the house. With an acre and a half of land, the property was ideal for the couple's aging German Shepard at the time, Luna. "She was 13 years old when we moved," said Mike, "and we wanted to give her a great life into her golden years."

But Mike has never lost his connection to music. The sprawling property came at an advantage for his dreams, as well. "I finally had somewhere I could build my own studio."

And he has. The domed roof of Apple Tree Recording Studio, the home of MAKKsound, will soon house the many sounds of the Haliburton Highlands. While Mike is still a few weeks from completing the extensive sound project, the details are clear cut. The space opens with a large room for the band to connect, a windowed section to the back designed for a sound engineer, and a booth to the side set up for vocals. Each detail is meticulous, right down to the curved corners of the room, creating a space where soundwaves can run freely and clearly.

"It's my first time doing anything like this," said Mike, as he gazed around the space. "I had never thought specifically about sound before. I just played for the love of playing. But my playing style has changed over the years. And eventually I just fell in love with the sound part of it."

Mike prides himself on his ability to problem solve, and present outside-the-box solutions. "I do troubleshoot quite well," he said with a laugh, noting that he embraces the challenges that come alongside working with a variety of styles and genres of music.

The technician intends to welcome all to Apple Tree Studios, with him at the soundboard. He also has a drum kit, and a wide variety of instruments and gear available for performers to utilize when renting the studio. "The vision for Apple Tree is that it's open for whatever," he said. "Musicians, voice-overs, video editing, whatever is needed. Anything to do with sound, I'll do it."

He also noted that the location of the studio could also serve as a destination or a retreat for bands to collaborate and produce within, like many of the musical greats have done in the past with iconic destinations around the world. "Part of that musical experience is to be in the heart of the Haliburton Highlands," he said.

While Mike continues to chip away at his dream, he is also doing sound for the Haliburton Folk Society, Haliburton Rotary for Music in the Park, and a variety of independent gigs around town. He gives credit to his friend and supporter, Walter Tose, for helping him become immersed in the local music scene. "He's been quite prominent in opening doors for me," Mike noted. "I'm very grateful for that."

Apple Tree Recording Studio is working towards opening mid-autumn. To get in touch with Mike for use of the studio, you can email him at studios@makksound.com.

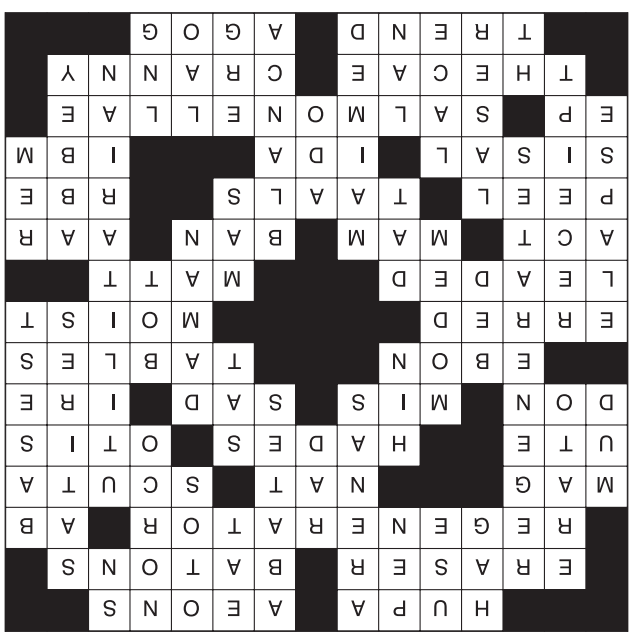
And if you work with Mike, only then will you understand his natural ability to completely understand the music, while he continues mixing without headphones in an effort to hear the natural sounds created.

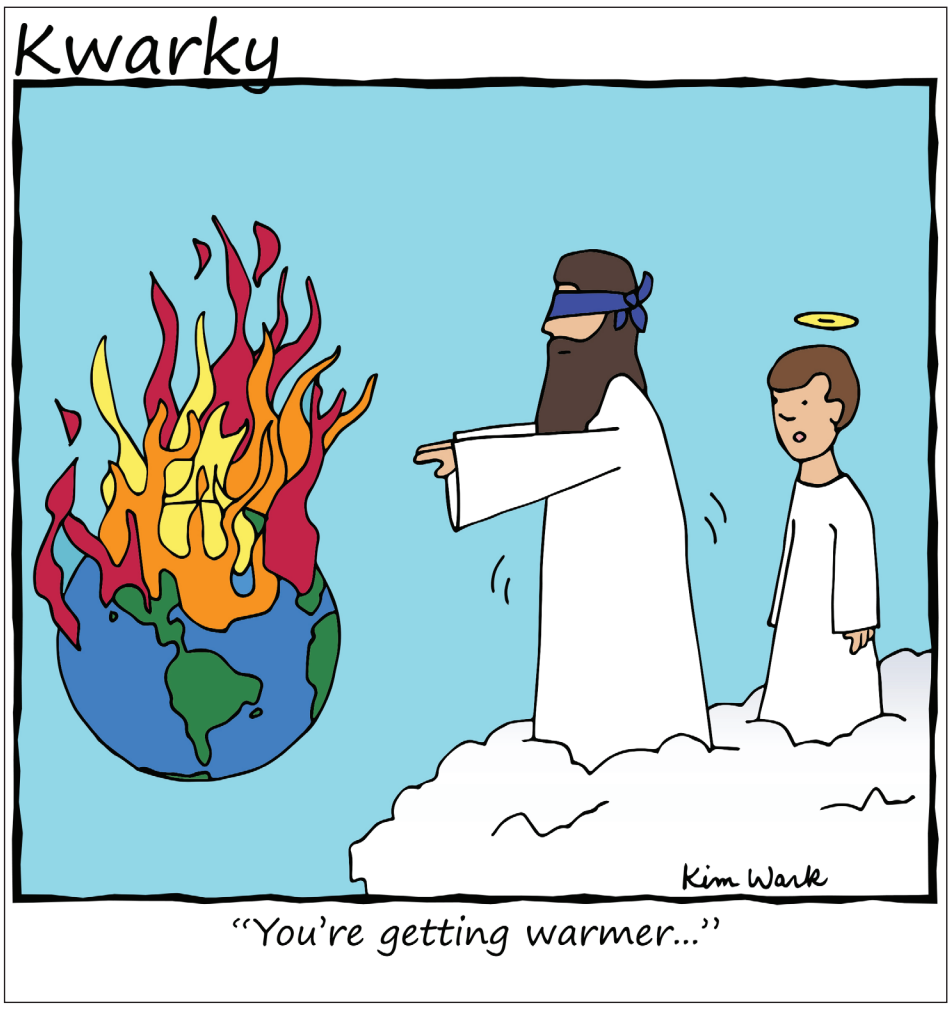
Because it's one of the senses that truly connects us to the world; that universal language that crosses oceans and ages, that transcends time and space.

## SUDOKU SOLUTION

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 7 |
| 9 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| 7 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| 2 | 9 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 3 |
| 3 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 1 |
| 8 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 2 |
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 6 | 9 |
| 1 | 7 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 5 |
| 6 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 4 |

## CROSSWORD ANSWERS






Brought to you by

LISA MERCER
RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS NORTH
lisa@lisamercer.ca
cell: 705.457.0364
Don't keep me a secret!
Not intended to solicit properties already listed for sale
Follow me on Facebook!
Broker

# SUDOKU

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | | | | 6 | 2 | | 1 | |
| | 2 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 3 | | |
| 7 | | | | | 5 | 2 | | |
| | | 7 | | 1 | 6 | 4 | 8 | |
| 3 | | | | | 8 | | 9 | |
| | 6 | | | | 3 | 5 | 7 | 2 |
| 4 | 3 | | | | 1 | 7 | | |
| 1 | 7 | | 6 | | | | | |
| 6 | | 5 | | 7 | | | 3 | 4 |

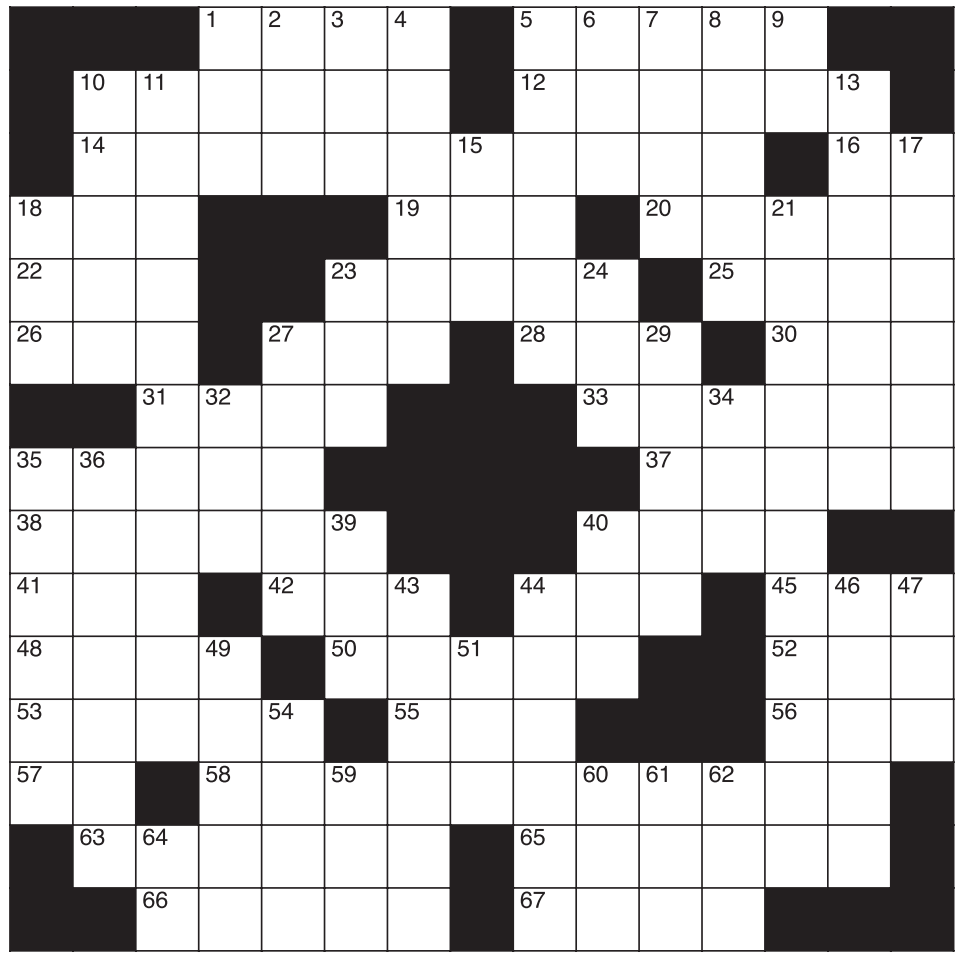
Level: Beginner

**Fun By The Numbers**

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

**Here's How It Works:**
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

*Answers on page 17*



CLUES ACROSS
1. Native American people of CA
5. Long periods of time (Brit.)
10. Classroom tool
12. Rods
14. One who renews
16. They start the alphabet
18. Periodical (slang)
19. Smooth singer Cole
20. Dorsal sclerites in insects
22. One from Utah
23. The world of the dead
25. Singer Redding
26. Mafia head
27. Wrongly
28. Unhappy
30. Anger
31. Dark olive black
33. Places to sit and eat
35. Made a mistake
37. Damp
38. Banned fuel type
40. Actor Damon
41. What thespians do
42. A polite address for a woman
44. Disallow
45. Swiss river
48. A banana has one
50. Afrikaans
52. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
53. Agave
55. Journalist Tarbell
56. One-time tech leader
57. Incidentally (abbr.)
58. Intestinal bacterium
63. Loose sheats around the spinal cord
65. Accompanies nook
66. Vogue
67. Highly excited

CLUES DOWN
1. Witch
2. Utilize
3. Writing utensil
4. Where rockers work
5. Becomes less intense
6. Consume
7. Type of catfish
8. "Horsetown, U.S.A."
9. Atomic #50
10. The Muse of lyric poetry
11. Brings back to life
13. Humorous critiques
15. Cool!
17. Worst
18. Wet dirt
21. Useful
23. Hebrew unit of liquid capacity
24. High schoolers' test
27. Internet device
29. City in India
32. A place to rest
34. Chat responder
35. A way to move on
36. What consumers are given
39. Digital audiotape
40. More (Spanish)
43. Disfigured
44. White (Spanish)
46. Church building
47. Georgia rockers
49. Surgeon's tool
51. "Much __ about nothing"
54. Make by braiding
59. Local area network
60. Unit of work
61. Indigenous person of Thailand
62. Liquefied natural gas
64. Distance to top

*Answers on page 17*

## Song and dance

The Highlands Opera Studio put on *The Merry Widow* this past weekend at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion. The show cast a combination of talented locals alongside professionally- trained opera singers, to offer a brilliantly captivating performance for summer theatre-goers. /TIM YANO staff photographer

THE Studio TOUR
HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS
2025
Scan Me

EXPLORE THE ART OF THE HIGHLANDS
oct 4-5 | oct 11-12 | studios open 10-5

End of Summer SALE
IT'S A ROAD TRIP DESTINATION!

25 - 50% off select items

COTTAGE COUNTRY LOG CABIN
TRADING COMPANY LTD.
1141 Kennisis Lake Rd. (County Rd.7)
Just Off Hwy. 118, West Guilford
(705) 754-2285
logcabintrading@hotmail.com
www.logcabintrading.ca

Long weekend hours:
Friday, Sat 10 -5, Sun 10-4, Monday closed
FALL HOURS: Tues to Sat 10 - 5

# Classifieds

Call 705-457-1037
classifieds@haliburtonpress.com
Deadline Friday at 12 pm

## FOR SALE

**Ontario Garlic and Scapes**, Garlic and Scape powders, Garlic Sauces, Spreads, Jams, Jellies, Pickles, SEED GARLIC. 1434 Kashagawigamog Lake Road. 2.2km from County Road 21. Minden. 705-286-1617 or 705-457-0090.

---

**For sale:** Dining Room Table and Four Chairs $100. 2 Love Seats $50 each. Glasstop Coffee Table and End Tables $75. Mastercraft Bandsaw and Oscillating Tube Sander $150 for the pair. A Motor Hoist 2 Ton $200. Contact **705-344-2355**

## FIREWOOD FOR SALE

**CUT SPLIT & DELIVERED** seasoned firewood 90% maple/all hardwood. Very clean wood. Dry also available. CALL AND INQUIRE: **705-930-7198**

## COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

**Meeting Space for Rent**

Blue Sky Studio at
Haliburton Chiropractic

Bright open space downtown with private entrance and washroom.

Available for rent by the hour, half or full day.

**Contact:**
info@haliburtonchiropractic.com
705-457-3500

**1998 Polaris INDY XLT touring snowmobile**, only 461 miles, looks and maintained as new by original retired owner, stored inside except for Christmas/New Years use, liquid cooled 597cc triple, XTRA 12' suspension front, 12.8 rear, all heated grips, composite skis, electric start, reverse , 280 watt alternator, 75 watt halogen headlights, and more, modern look plus great trail machine for 2 up. Location Eagle Lake. Asking Price $4,250. Contact **905-294-1333**

## WANTED

**Wanted:** scrap cars and trucks. Cash paid. Please call **705-286-3758** or cell **249-332-1212**

## COMING EVENTS

*Coming*
**Saturday, September 13, @ 7:30 PM**
*to St George's Anglican Church:*

**JOHN SHEARD**

- PIANIST AND MUSIC DIRECTOR FOR STUART MCLEAN'S VINYL CAFE,
- AN INTIMATE EVENING OF MUSIC,

HUMOUR AND REMINISCENCES OF JOHN'S 20 YEARS

ONSTAGE WITH STUART MCLEAN

JOIN US AS JOHN AND HIS MUSICAL FRIENDS TAKE YOU BEHIND THE CURTAIN AT THE VINYL CAFE

FOR A SPECIAL FUNDRAISING SHOW...
AT ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
617 MOUNTAIN ST. IN HALIBURTON

**Seating is Limited to 165**
**Admission $20 at the Door**

## SERVICES

**Mike A. Thomson General Contracting Roofing - Garages - Carpentry & Repairs Call Today! 705 457-6365**

**Professional Home and Cottage Interior/Exterior Renovation** and New Construction. Call Patrick **705-854-3989**

**Handyman and Moving Services** Available. Also offer small building jobs and repairs. Fully insured and WSIB certified. Please call **705-754-9904** or **705-854-1382**

**Handyman Service:**
Carpentry, General Repairs,
Call or Text Doug
at **416-889-8534**

Product of Canada
**Same Day Screen Repair**
Custom Screen Manufacturing,
All Styles, Shapes & Types.
Call or visit the
CARRIAGE HOUSE
705-286-2994
www.haliburtonroom.com

**Batteries & Generators**
*Batteries, all types;*
Truck, Tractor,
Snowmobile, Motorcycle
**Generators;**
*Standby & Regular*
**PLUS Tractor Chains**
1-800-954-9998 or (705) 741-6097
*KawarthaBattery @gmail.com*

## COMING EVENTS

**The Highlands Performing Arts Society**
**Announcement of Annual General Meeting**
**and**
**Call for new Members of our Board of Directors**

The Highlands Performing Arts Society is also known as the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion and as the Theatre at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School

The Annual General Meeting of the Performing Arts Society will be held Wednesday, September 24, 2025, At 4:00pm In the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion (the theatre) At Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

Among other items the Board will receive names, both volunteers and nominations, for new Board Members of this Not For Profit mainstay of live performance in our community. Interest in joining the Board may be signified at the AGM or beforehand by contacting our office at

_____

Attendees and nominees must be Members of the Highlands Performing Arts Society. Membership costs $10.00 and can be purchased at the door.

## OBITUARIES

*In Loving Memory of*
**John Fredrick Percival Payne**
*Passed away August 09/2025 at Niagara On The Lake L.T.C.*

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Haliburton United Church at 10 George St. Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 at 2:00 pm on Saturday September 6, 2025.

## FUNERAL SERVICES

Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd. & Pre-planning Centre
"Serving Haliburton and Victoria Counties"
(705) 286-2181
Toll Free 1-888-588-5777
Fax: 705-286-6661
127 Main St., Minden

**Call for information explaining many of the options available to you.**

**We can help...**
- We offer pre-need and at need packages for cremation, burial and memorial arrangements
- Family and reception centre
- Kids play room
- Bereavement support, services & lending library
- Affordable cost options

Representatives for Lons Memorials (visit our on site display) • www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

SANDERSON MONUMENT Est. 1872
~ SINCE 1872 ~
***Five Generations of Excellence***
Serving Haliburton, Minden Hills, Kawartha Lakes & Brock Township
**Len Thornbury**
**705.324.9222**
**Office & Showroom**
**17 Russell St. W.**
**(Royal Plaza)Lindsay**
**1.800.461.0282**
*www.sandersonmonument.ca*

HALIBURTON Community FUNERAL HOME
*"Providing a Service that respects your wishes"*

*13523 Highway 118, Haliburton*
*705.457.9209*
*www.communityfuneralhomes.com*

# Classifieds

Call 705-457-1037
classifieds@haliburtonpress.com
Deadline Friday at 12 pm

## OBITUARIES

*In Loving Memory of*

### Donald "Don" Veno

*Passed away peacefully at the Haliburton Hospital on Thursday, August 21, 2025 with his family at his side, in his 79th year.*

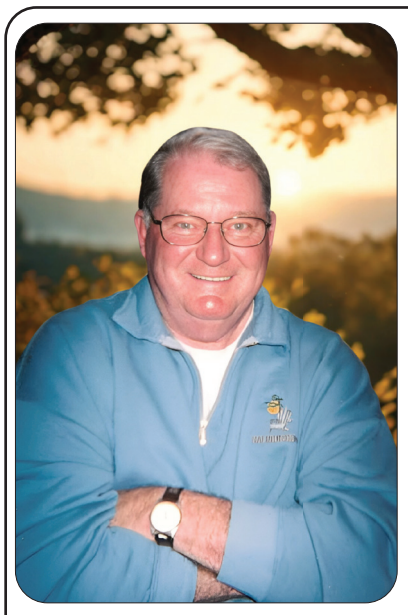
Beloved husband of Margaret "Peggie" and dear father of Adele. Loving grandpa to Brendan and his wife Carrie and great grandfather (Papa) to Rayne. Predeceased by his brother Keith and his wife Laura and by his sister Diane. Dear uncle to Duane and Therrin. The family would like to thank the doctors and nurses in the palliative care unit at the Haliburton Hospital for providing excellent care and empathy.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden K0M 2K0 for a Celebration of Don's Life on Saturday, September 27, 2025 from 12:00 o'clock noon until 2:00 pm.

Memorial Donations to the Minden Community Food Centre would be appreciated by the family.

Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd. & Pre-Planning Centre

*www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com*



### Lloyd William Curry

*Resident of Haliburton*

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Lloyd William Curry, peacefully at the Haliburton Hospital in his 94th year. Predeceased by his beloved Wife, Louise Curry. Devoted Father of Tim (Bev), Tom (Kim), Dan (Coleen), and Dean (Terri). Fondly remembered by his grandchildren, Amanda, Jason, Shawna, Scot, Jodi, and Kelsey. Also remembered by his great-grandchildren, Riley, Wells, James, Ashtyn, and Lane.

Lloyd was a long-time employee of the Municipality of Dysart and a volunteer firefighter for over 30 years. Lloyd loved hockey, golfing, fishing, and most of all, spending time with his family. A special thank you to all the wonderful staff at the Extendicare and the Haliburton Hospital for their care and support for Lloyd.

**Private Arrangements**

As per the family's wishes, funeral arrangements are private. A private gathering for Lloyd's family will take place at a later date. As an expression of sympathy, donations in Lloyd's memory can be made to the Extendicare Proud Pioneers. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME**, 13523 Hwy. #118 Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 (705) 457-9209.

Community Funeral Home

***www.communityfuneralhomes.com***

*In Loving Memory of*

### Jeffrey Harold Becker

*March 8, 1951 – August 22, 2025*

Jeff died peacefully, surrounded by his loving family at Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto, Ontario on Friday August 22, 2025. Jeff was born in Toronto and grew up in Richmond Hill, Ontario where he met his wife Sally. Jeff also enjoyed many youthful memories spending time at Bass Lake in the Orillia region.

Loving and dear husband to Sally of 53 years and proud and loving father to Liane (Darren Molloy) and Jennifer. Predeceased by his brother John, father Jack, stepmother Cam, and mother Isobel (Stewart). Survived by his brother Andrew, sister in law Evelyn, nieces Meghan (Peter) and Lindsay (Gary), and nephew Matthew (Jennifer) and grand-niece Mikayla.

Jeff lived life to the fullest – a characteristic that was evident in both his professional and personal life. Jeff had a long and successful career in the Canadian fashion garment industry, leading Camden fashion group with his father Jack in the Toronto Fashion District at 14 Camden Street. Jeff proceeded from Camden and successfully owned his own fashion agency, Urban Agencies. Fashion came natural to Jeff following in both his father's (Jack) and grandfather's (Arthur) footsteps. Jeff enjoyed his many friends and customers throughout Canada in the fashion business and always looked forward to heading out on the road to visit his customers in person.

Jeff was creative and was always working on his next invention. Jeff enjoyed road trips & travel, music, cars, television & movies, his Harley Davidson motorcycles, boating, barbecuing and most importantly his family and friends. Jeff cherished his time at his beloved home on Halls Lake in Haliburton, Ontario where he retired to the lake from Toronto. Jeff valued his many friends and neighbours within the Halls Lake and Haliburton community along with his family's Australian labradoodle "Hallsy".

Jeff loved people, always had a story, loved to chat, naturally made people laugh and was always smiling with a positive outlook to any circumstance. Jeff loved to talk to his friends and family and his countless conversations and phone calls will forever be missed by all.

The family extends their heartfelt gratitude to all their family, friends and neighbors as well a the staff at Barrie RVH, Toronto General and Princess Margaret hospitals for their care and support.

The family wishes to reflect and a celebration of life will be held at a later date.

CANOE
100.9 & 97.1 FM
HALIBURTON • MINDEN
Radio Bingo
Join us every Tuesday night @ 6pm
for the County's #1 Game
Play on Tuesday, September 2
& Win up to $4,500 with Triple Bingo!
Have fun while helping.
It's a win - win!
Since 2013 CanoeFM has
donated more than $550,000 to
approximately 42 local not-for-profits
Canoe FM - Working Toward a Stronger Community
www.canoefm.com
#M851539

MUNICIPALITY OF HIGHLANDS EAST
Yours to Explore
highlandseast.ca

For more details, more events, and to submit an event visit our website at
**calendar.highlandseast.ca**

Like us on Facebook!
**Municipality of Highlands East**
Follow us on Twitter!
**@Highlands_East**

# Events and Activities Listing September 2025

## Corduroy Enduro

**Sept. 18 - 21**

The Corduroy Enduro is a gruelling two-day off-road motorcycle event to earn a coveted finisher medal, held every September. This year's course features extreme sections, river crossings, MX tests, and an ISDE-style bike impound. The event also offers non-competitive trail rides, demo rides, parts, gear & more. Visit corduroyenduro.ca

## Hike Haliburton

**September 18, 19, 20 & 21st.**

Visit the website: festival.hikehaliburton.com to learn more and register for hikes throughout the county.

## Visitor Information Centre Open

Our Visitor Information Centre at 2786 Essonville Line in Wilberforce, at the Curling Club, is open Thursday to Monday 10 am to 4 pm, (closed Tuesday and Wednesday). We offer mineral permission to collect forms, directions, geocaching information and GPS rentals, trails, events, and other general area information. Free Wi-Fi is also available.

## Trails

Whether you like to walk or run, ride a bike, horse or an ATV, one of Highlands East's trails is sure to please. Come enjoy the fall colours.
Maps and descriptions can be found on our website highlandseast.ca.

## Household Hazardous Waste Day -Tory Hill

**Saturday, September 27. 10 am to 2 pm.**

Tory Hill Landfill 19178 Highway 118 between Wilberforce and Tory Hill. Dispose of items such as paint and oil that would not normally be allowed at landfills.

## Mineral Collecting

Mineral collecting is a fun outdoor activity. Adults and kids alike will delight in the chance to dig for buried treasure and bring home some colourful gems of your very own! Get a Permission to Collect form (free) from our website highlandseast.ca.

SEAMLESS EAVESTROUGH | INTERIOR & EXTERIOR RENOVATIONS
TALL PINES CARPENTRY
NEW BUILD & DECKS
Covered by: WSIB CSPAAT
Duncan Snowden
info@TallPinesCarpentry.ca
www.TallPinesCarpentry.ca
If you can dream it, We can build it!
613-332-9410

HIGHLAND CREEK BUILDERS LTD.
Wayne Quibell
General Contractor
info@highlandcreekbuilders.ca
Cell 613.334.1914
705.448.3976
HighlandCreekBuilders.ca
• New Homes & Cottages (including log)
• Garage Packages / Additions
• Renovations
• Decks
• Excavation & Landscaping
• Fully Insured & WSIB
• Proud Member of IHSA

BY APPOINTMENT
The Best Kept Secret In Wilberforce...
Dreamweaver Country Boutique
Specializing in Infants and Children's Wear, Smocking & Customer Cottage Accessories.
Custom sewing, knitting and alterations done on site!
448-2868 or email: JanDreamweaver@aol.com
1/2 mile North of Wilberforce off Hwy 648

INSIDE THIS WEEK:

**Sewage Stink**
*North Kashagawigamog Lake Road residents upset about pumping station smell*

**Monmouth Ag Fair**
*Annual celebration of rural life takes over Wilberforce for a day*

**Fabulous Fergie**
*Former Major Leaguer Ferguson Jenkins donates to Camp Wanakita*

THE ECHO
HALIBURTON COUNTY
www.haliburtonecho.on.ca
email: info@haliburtonecho.on.ca
Tuesday, August 21, 2001
Vol. 118 No. 19
$1 including GST

DARREN LUM/Echo

A long tradition of fun and frolic was the order of the weekend at the 137th annual Haliburton County Fair in Mnden. Thousands enjoyed the midway, stared in awe and covered their ears at the 1812 war re-enactment for both the parade and at the fairgrounds, applauded the horse pulls and meandered their way through the curling arena's various booths. Here, a young participant checks out the agricultural exhibits. More photos pages 8 and 9.

# Protests building over Gay Venture cottage proposal

**CATHY OLLIFFE**
*Staff Reporter*

An interval cottage development proposal for the Camp Gay Venture property on Lake Kashagawigamog is only in the planning stages but already people are lining up in opposition to it.

Last Tuesday the matter came before Minden Hills councillors during a meeting of the township's Economic Development and Planning Committee. It came in the form of a request from a planning company, The Planning Partnership in Barrie, asking for a public meeting to be scheduled as part of a zoning by-law amendment process that, if approved, would change the property on Part of Lots 27, 28 and 29, Concession 4, from the Tourist Commercial (C4) Zone to the Tourist Commercial Exception (C4*40).

The amendment would permit the construction of a cottage resort, similar to Chandler Point, which could include a maximum of 18 units. Accessory uses also permitted would include docking facilities for 18 boats, a manager's residence and office, accessory storage buildings and outdoor facilities for skating, tennis, badminton and/or volleyball.

In draft copies of the proposed amendment, an interval ownership cottage resort is defined as a commercial use owned by an organization with members who share the right to occupy the units.

Committee members agreed to arrange a public meeting, tentatively set for Sept.

See **Plan** *page 4*

# Highlands Festival wraps up successful season

**MARTHA PERKINS**
*Editor*

With *Colours in the Storm* leading the way, the Highlands Summer Festival celebrated a highly successful season, with almost half of the 28 shows being sold out.

"We put a lot of people into the seats and got some really good feedback," says artistic director Barrie Wood, taking a well-deserved break at his Eagle Lake home after starring in two of the four productions and directing the two others.

The average attendance over the six weeks was 77 percent. "Any theatre company in this country would be pretty pleased," says Wood, who came on board this season after his own highly successful career in theatre, including Toronto and travelling productions of Cats, Beauty and the Beast and Crazy for You.

Given that the Festival's budget was roughly $60,000, this high audience rating was necessary to ensure the Festival broke even. Wood says not all the figures are in yet, but the Festival might have also made a small profit.

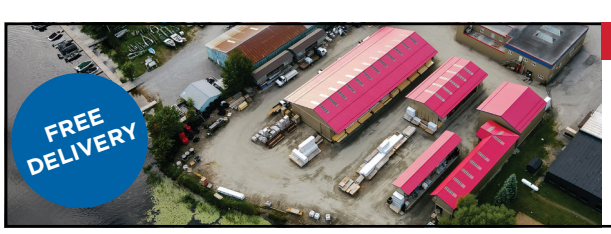
The most popular production was the biggest – *Colours in the Storm*, a Canadian musical about the life and mysterious death of painter Tom Thomson. Starring Wood in the main role and with an ambitious set by visual director Rose Pearson and director Darrell Dobson, the production brought together a stellar ensemble of local performers.

Over the eight performances, 92 percent of the seats at the Northern Lights Pavilion were filled.

Wood isn't surprised. "It's a good piece – a strong script with a good score. (Set in Algonquin Park in the 1910s), it was the connection to the here and now of where we are. And people love a tragedy

See **Team** *page 11*

GREAT FINANCE RATES ON NEW!
TRANSMISSION SPECIALIST ON STAFF!
• 18 YRS EXPERIENCE • REPAIRS TO ALL MAKES & MODELS
GREAT SUMMER CAR!
2000 SEBRING CONVERTIBLE JX
low kms, auto, loaded
2000 CHRYSLER LHS
loaded, leather
1999 CHRYSLER NEON
auto, air, am/fm cass.
1998 GMC SAFARI VAN SLX
V8, short box, auto, air, matching cap
1995 DODGE 1500 4X4
loaded, auto, low km's
1993 CHRYSLER INTREPID ES
loaded, am/fm cassette
KEANEY
CHRYSLER • JEEP • DODGE TRUCKS
#1 Selling Chrysler Dealership In The Highlands!
PLUS THE BEST PRICES ON USED!
Mopar
Downtown Minden (705) 286-1561 After Hours: 705-754-9528 email: keaney@interhop.net website: starpages.com/keaney-chrysler



MAKING DREAMS REALITY!
HALIBURTON TIMBER MART
5148 County Road 21, Haliburton
Phone: 705-457-2510
Toll Free 1-877-425-5862
AIR MILES.
www.haliburtonlumber.com
sales@haliburtonlumber.com
Your Complete Building Centre Since 1968

New listings just in: stunning lakefront cottages, cozy retreats, and quiet escapes that make finding your happy place easier than ever.

## *Kennisis Lake*

Escape to your own slice of Haliburton magic at this exceptional lakefront property on Kennisis Lake. This year-round cottage or home offers the perfect blend of comfort and natural beauty, where every day ends with breathtaking sunset views over the water.

2 | 3 | W | 120ft waterfront | MLS X12176356

**Kennisis Lake** — $1,999,999 — 4 | 5 — MLS X12110017

**Kawartha Lakes** — $1,579,000 — 3 | 3 — MLS X12182250

**Growler Lake** — $1,795,000 — 4 | 5 — MLS X12236651

**Eagle Lake Area** — $999,900 — 2 | 3 — MLS X12029422

**Kennisis Lake** — $949,500 — 2 | 3 — MLS X12273143

**Canning Lake** — $924,900 — 2 | 3 — MLS X12146750

**Long Lake** — $899,990 — 2 | 6 — MLS X12176356

**Little Redstone Lake** — $895000 — 2 | 4 — MLS X12344842

**Kennisis Lake** — $874,900 — 2 | 3 — MLS X12169805

**Horseshoe Lake** — $849,997 — 3 | 3 — MLS X12189937

**Beech Lake** — $799,900 — 2 | 2 — MLS X12250094

**Kennisis Lake** — $725,000 — 2 | 3 — MLS X12347900

**Kennisis River** — $725,000 — 1 | 3 — MLS X12137708

**Trooper Lake** — $699,000 — 2 | 3 — MLS X12236448

**Eagle Lake Area** — $659,900 — 1 | 2 — MLS X12095585

**Salerno Lake** — $659,000 — 1 | 3 — MLS X12253284

**Kushog Lake** — $599,900 — 2 | 4 — MLS X12227417

**Glamor Lake** — $525,000 — 1 | 3 — MLS X12315993

**Haliburton** — $435,000 — 2 | 2 — MLS X12343741

**Gelert Road** — $390,000 — 1 | 2 — MLS X12267121

## *Vacant Land*

*Endless Possibilities*

*Now Sold*
**County Road 121**
$65,000
MLS X12337507
1.77 acres

*Deeded Access*
**Wenona Lake Road**
$95,000
MLS X11953943
0.42 acres

*Highlands East*
**Outram Road**
$119,999
MLS X12209117
2.11 acres

*Fort Irwin*
**Haliburton Lake Road**
$199,900
MLS X12198773
14.53 acres

*Now Sold*
**Dark Lake**
$275,000
MLS X12285079
1.77 acres

*Adeline Trail*
**Redstone Lake**
$445,000.00
MLS 12220289
18.4 acres

SCAN TO SEE THE LISTINGS

contact@baumgartnerrealty.ca
(705) 457-3461

7 DYSART AVE. P.O. BOX 1086
HALIBURTON ON K0M1S0

RE/MAX PROFESSIONALS NORTH BAUMGARTNER REALTY
Brokerage - independently owned and operated